Viral Eye Infection in Delhi

4094. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the viral eye infection known as conjunctivitis is spreading rapidly in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to contain this epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Cases of viral conjunctivitis have been reported to have occurred recently in Delhi. This is a seasonal condition where treatment is available with the Government hospitals, Health Centres, Private Nursing Homes and medical practitioners.

Building up of Stadia in Rural Areas

4095. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any programme of building small stadia and centres for indoor games in the rural areas of the country, to promote cultural and sport activities among rural youth and students; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no exclusive scheme for construction of stadia and centres for indoor games in rural areas. However under the scheme of 'Grants to State Sports Councils, etc.' financial assistance is provided to State Sports Councils & Voluntary agencies etc., of urban and rural areas both, for creation of sports infrastructure in the country for promotion of sports & games on sharing basis subject to a ceiling. This includes creation of small stadia and building for indoor games.

1032 RS—7.

Aid to Improve Tirupati Airport

4096. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to seek aid or loan from Tirumala Tirupati Devasi Ganam to improve Tirupati Airport; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Airports Authority have approached the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam for an interest free loan of Rs. 10 crores repayable in 20 years, for improving the facilities at Tirupati Airport.

Development of Inland Waterways in Andhra Pradesh

4097. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Government for developing inland waterways; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The examination of the four separate proposals submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh with regard to improvement of Buckingham Canal, Commamur Canal, Eluru Canal and the Kakinada Canal, costing Rs. 600 lakhs revealed that the improvement of these canals needs a comprehensive scheme for an integrated development of this canal system. The State Government have, therefore, been advised to prepare a comprehensive scheme for improvement of the canal system on an intergrated basis.